

Jim Cramer from “Mad Money” on CNBC runs a segment called, “Are you diversified?” He wasn’t referring to asset classes; he was referring to stocks in your portfolio. When we talk about non-correlated asset classes, we’re talking about diversified investments that don’t rise and fall in tandem with each other. If you’re 100% invested in stock, your portfolio will rise and fall with the market. That’s okay if you’re young and have a long runway ahead of you, but if you’re nearing retirement, you may not have the time to make up your losses following a large market drop. Holding non-correlated asset classes in your portfolio could mean owning domestic real estate and international stocks, for example. Because these are two distinctly different assets classes the returns do not correlate. Investing in non-correlated assets helps to ensure that everything in your portfolio doesn’t go up and – more importantly – that everything doesn’t go down at the same time. If you expect a rate of return that consistently matches or exceeds that of the S&P 500, your portfolio would have to assume a higher level of risk. Properly managed portfolios would not have this level of exposure.

Being smart in managing your wealth, and not just lucky, involves applying this investment expertise when markets go up, down and sideways. If you find yourself struggling with any financial questions, our door is always open for a discussion, whether you are a client or if you are just a recipient of the Fly of the Month and looking for a little education or second opinion on your portfolio. If we need to put a line in the water and have this discussion...even better!

Cindy Alvarez, Wealth Management Advisor



Bugs AND Brews



Thursday, March 1st • Blue Moon Brewing • 6pm to 8pm
3750 Chestnut Place, Denver, CO 80216

Thursday, March 8th • The Oak Room at Oskar Blues Brewing • 6pm to 8pm
1800 Pike Street, Longmont, CO 80501

Join Aquatic Biologist and Fly Fishing geek, Peter Stichter, at a brewery near you to learn how to Match the Hatch while sipping on your favorite craft brew. We are partnering with breweries and taprooms across the Rockies for this 1-1/2 hour talk on entomology for the fly fisher and matching the hatch.

Participants will each receive 10 flies and a beer with their ticket. Aided by high-resolution videos, animations, and craft brews, you will learn how to identify every bug in, on, and around the river and quickly match it to the best fly patterns in your box. Whether you are just learning to fly fish or are a seasoned angler, this class will help you dial in what the fish are feeding on and how to choose the best fly patterns to fish.

\$20 FOR 10 FLIES & A BEER

For tickets, visit AscentFlyFishing.com



Fly of the Month • February 2018

We hope that 2018 is off to a good start for you personally, as you take time out to fly fish, but also financially as we come off a banner year in the stock market. Like any day out fly fishing where you have your good days and bad days, February markets have seen a bit of the same, creating fear for investors. It would be one thing if there was some reason for this recent volatility, then we would have the information necessary to adjust our portfolios. But the fact is, our economy remains strong and fear is driving this recent correction. To make the parallel to fishing again, unless conditions warrant abandoning your plan, stay the course until we have more information to recommend change.

Some time ago we published an article about being smart or lucky when it comes to your money. It may be worth providing a few highlights again as we try to overcome any fear that this market is producing. The question was asked... “would you rather be smart or lucky with it comes to your money?” It should be an easy choice: smart. **So what is smart investing?**

It’s not just saving your money and buying a few good large cap stocks. It’s developing a disciplined approach and understanding what it means to be invested in non-correlated asset classes. Non-correlation can be easy to understand. I will provide a simple explanation, but first I’d like to tell you why it matters...

...continued on the back page



13976 W. Bowles Avenue, Suite 200, Littleton, CO 80127 • 720.962.6700

FLY OF THE MONTH • MATT'S HI-VIS MIDGE • Size 18

We might be the only fly shop to tell you this, but you do not need to buy a separate midge pattern to match each of the almost 17,000 species you will find on our North American waters. With a few key fly patterns in a couple of sizes and colors, you can effectively match most midge species, and the Matt's Midge is one such multipurpose pattern. The wings of this pattern, as they lay across the back, are a nearly spot-on imitation of the adult midge as it returns to the water to lay its eggs.

Dry/Wet: Dry

Fly Category: Generalist Pattern

Family: Midge

Species: Blackfly, Chironomid

Life Stage: Adult



Trout Smart Series: Part 1 of Rainbow Trout

Peter Stitcher - Ascent Fly Fishing

The grainy footage was captured on our family's shoulder-mounted camcorder, technology so old that it's probably coming back into style. Hopping next to a pond on that Smoky Mountain morning, a kid fills the frame as he struggles to hold onto his 10' cane pole and what was surely the biggest catch of his young life. With a final heave, a confused and defeated rainbow trout was hoisted into the air and displayed to the camera. The pride and excitement of that moment echos through

the years, and was the spark that lit my love for trout and passion for fishing. My guess is that this story may have resonated with many of you, bringing you back to the ponds and creeks of your youth and your first trout: the beloved and always eager rainbow trout.

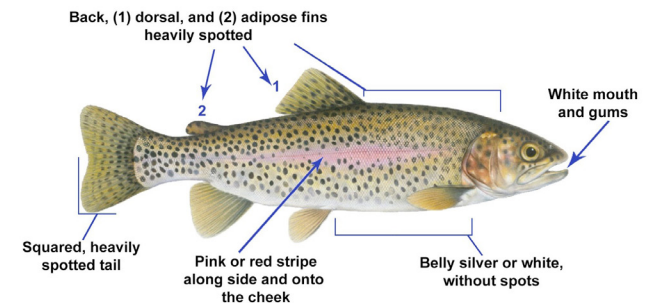
In part III of our Trout Smart series, we will be breaking down a familiar friend, the most abundant of North American trout: *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, the Rainbow Trout.

Left: A rainbow caught on the Frying Pan River

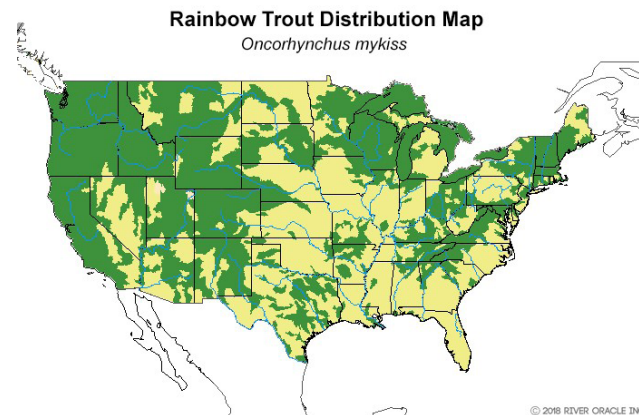
Identifying Characteristics:

Like a trendy new version of 'riverbed camo' seen in the pages of the Cabela's catalog, the heavily spotted back, tail, dorsal, and adipose fins of the rainbow trout help it to blend into the rocks and gravel over which they swim. Often mistaken for a softly swaying aquatic plant or clump of algae when viewed from above, it can be the white flash of their mouths opening to take a bit of drifting food that gives them away. When finally netted and brought to hand, you will see the distinctive pink or red stripe running the length of their side and cheek, the defining characteristic from which this trout species gained its rainbow moniker.

Identifying Rainbow Trout



Range & Habitat:



Due to this species' hardiness, their ability to survive in a wide range of water temperatures (they can survive in water temperatures up to 77° F), and the ease of raising them in a hatchery setting, Rainbow trout are the most abundant and heavily-stocked trout species in the United States. Found in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, Rainbow trout

can be aptly compared to cattle raised in factory feedlots. Hatchery grown rainbows are raised for size, and are for the most part sterile (the rationale being that in sterilizing hatchery fish, this will protect the genetics of wild fish and enable these cattle of the aquatic world to focus their energy on growing big, fast). Equally adept at surviving and thriving in both lakes and rivers, the habitat preference of the rainbow make them relatively easy to approach and catch on a fly. Driven by the desire for high calorie foods and lots of it, rainbow trout favor riffles and don't mind wandering far away from the large cover and deep pools that Brown and Brook trout prefer.